One-Woman Show
Presents

Translated, Cleaned, and Scanlated:
Hisa Ranja
(For the Love of Fujita-Sensei!)

Thunder Dance

It seems my time has come...

There are only five of us left?

Yoshinaka-sama, I am unworthy of such praise!

Yessir!

You've done well, accompanying me from Kiso to the capital and now here! Your actions with the general were a sight to see!

Tomoe!!

雷の舞

いかずち　まい

Thunder Dance

うしおととら

外伝

Yoshinaka-sama...

Ha ha ha!

It seems I wasn't quite pious enough.

Under the divine protection of Hachiman*, I had designs on the whole country...

*Hachiman: the tutelary god of the Minamoto Clan

I will end my life with you, Yoshinaka-sama!

What are you saying?

It's best you go off somewhere to safety.

Tomoe, I plan to die in battle now.

Hey, Tomoe...

will be a joke if I am protected by a woman in my final hour!

But, don't you see the name of Minamoto Yoshinaka-

You are surely a woman warrior, a match for a thousand.

Silence, Tomoe!!

Even after all you've done, there's malicious gossip that you're a pretty but unrefined warrior, a dancing girl who'd be better off dancing.

Such talk is mortifying...

We've been made the butt of jokes by the nobles and the country folk...

We've been called ill-mannered hooligans and country monkeys.

Since we drove the Taira up to the capital...

Bi"bbbn

Fuhn! Your dance is a good one, though.

Dance, huh?

I've had enough of being laughed at.

I just...

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5

This happened 13 years ago.

What?

Yoshinaka-sama... long ago... something like this happened...

Do you remember the story of the mononoke that were running amok up and down the lands of Kiso?

The mononoke who led this band was terribly violent...

Yes, I remember. There was a big ruckus after all neighboring villages were consumed.

My story has to do with that mononoke.

But it ended up never appearing in our area.

I remember my godfather, your father Nakahara-dono, was busy preparing defences.

13 Years Ago- Kiso

7

Tomoe!

A woman should have something to protect the home.

Why does a girl need to draw a bow! What for? Why does a girl carry a tachi*!

Fool!

* a longsword

You're not some nun with a naginata or a sword-wielding woman thief!
You're the daughter of the Nakahara Household!

Komaou: Yoshinaka's childhood name

Chichiue: polite form of address for fathers

I want to be with Komaou*, Chichiue*!

No!

You will give up Bushido at once and be more ladylike!

Give this up. Play time is over.

Why! Haven't I been riding horses and practicing sword with my brothers and Komaou all this time?

Ah-

So, it would be particularly strange if you were to be a concubine to-

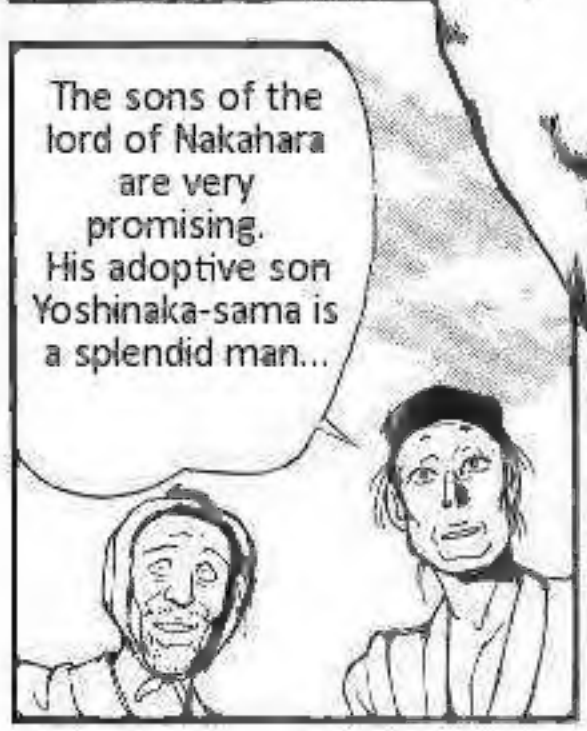
Komaou's fiancée...

It's to be my sister Yamabuki then?

You may love Yoshinaka dearly, but it's best you won't become his wife...

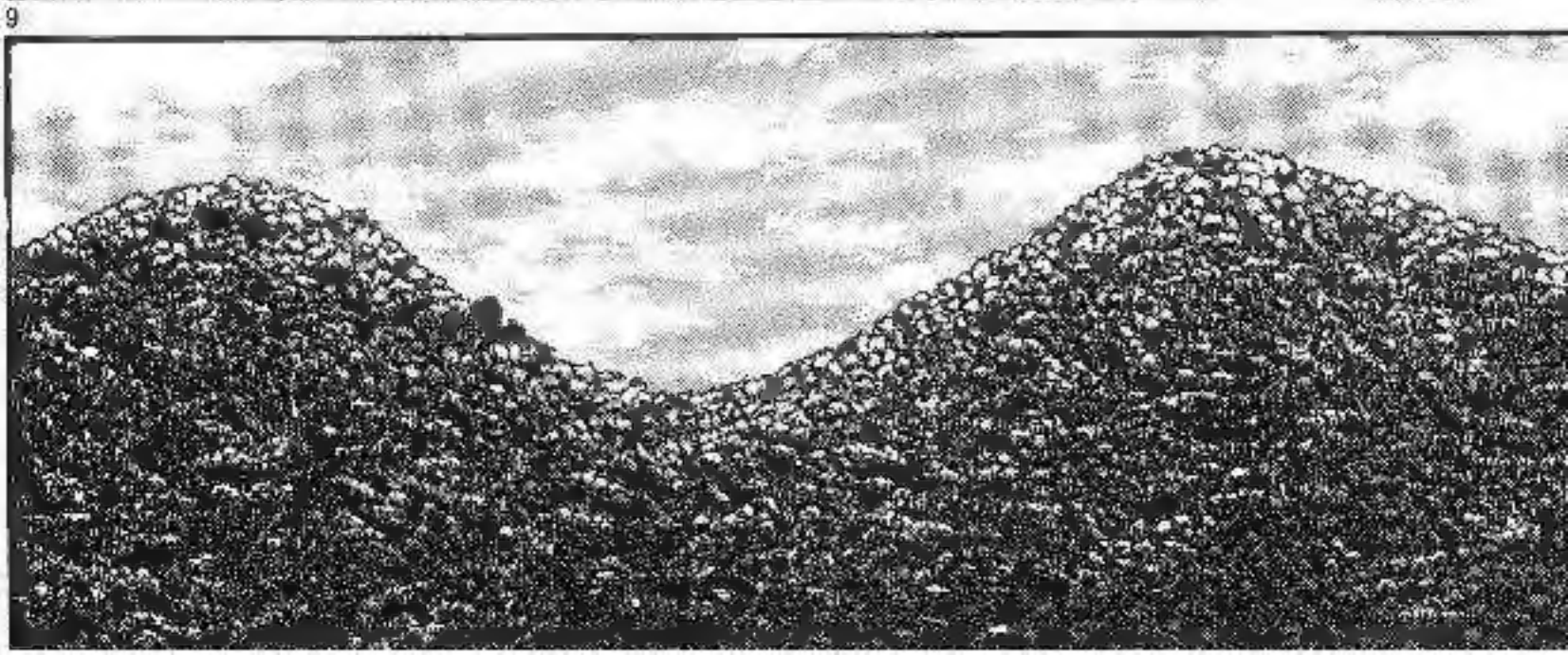
!

No... I want to be with Komaou...


The sons of the lord of Nakahara are very promising. His adoptive son Yoshinaka-sama is a splendid man...

Is she running away from her guardians again?
Look there. That's Tomoe-sama from Nakahara-sama's Household, isn't it?

Hah hah! Quite a bit of trouble for the nobles, eh?
But his oldest girl Tomoe-sama seems to think she can win Yohsinaka by imitating him...



Anytime he went to war, I wouldn't be of any use

How would that shape up even if I were

I say it for you to

Ama title for a nun

Well Ama-san how would you describe such a horrible mononoke?

As you say but beg you

We are the group ordered by Hogu to do something to subjugate the mononoke dwelling in these mountains and committing atrocities

We can't let some nun follow us to exorcise the mononoke

And it will reform its deeds

It may take time but the mononoke will surely have a change of heart

And then warning

By preaching Buddha's benevolence with all my heart

Ama sama

Ah wait

Preaching to a mononoke

Ha ha ha! That's just great!

If you can manage to get up this mountain I'll guide you on your way

So Ama san those rumors about bakemono living in these mountains aren't very reliable I come through here all the time

Ha ha ha, just a country warrior called Tomoe

You must be a princess of some land

Thank you very much Now that's see you there s such dignity in your department

Is that really true? Do good things come from waiting?

Ama sama, before you said that if you waited, the mononoke would change its ways in the course of time

But why did you come here and guide an old nun?

Is that so

Yes of course. If you pray quietly, rely upon Buddha, and wait,

your wish will surely be fulfilled

Tomoe-sama, is there something distressing you?

There's another reason aside from my father s words

Besides ..

My father deeply believes that woman cannot be warriors

I see So you have choosen Bushidou for the sake of this young man

Goukyuu* a very tightly drawn bow

Yesterday, I was practicing goukyuu* with Komaou and my brothers

But no matter how hard I tried I couldn't

My brothers and Komaou could all draw theirs

When Komaou said that, tears started stream ng down my face

That's all right, Tomoe You re stil really good at horses.

Is waiting for Komaou rea ly all that I can do?

Wait and pray?

I was torn by such embarrass ment

A woman cannot be a man

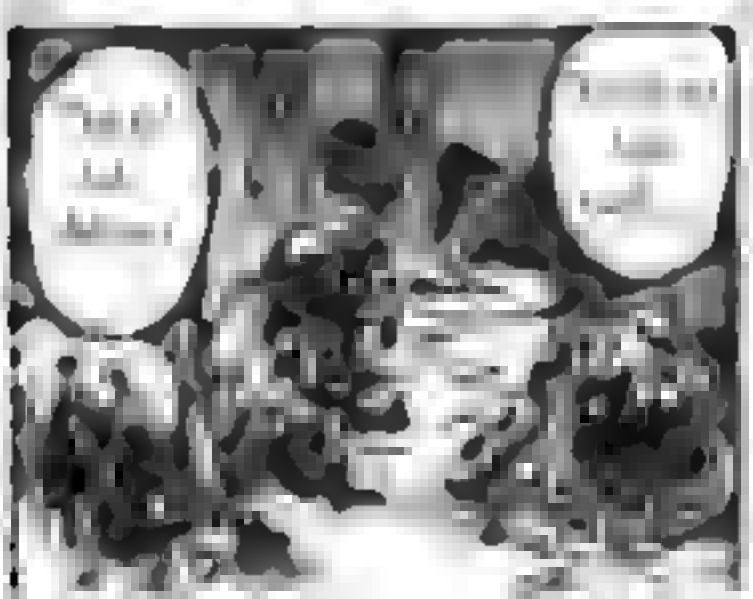
the other warriors who came before have

But, as for the mononoke,

Just wait to see what will happen

Just that and rely on the mercy of Buddha

certainly



No.

You're going to preach to us, eh?

We heard. We heard.

Ama sama r-run

Tomoe-sama!

Now, let us calmly pray

Buddha can save mononoke, just like everyone else

Try it! Come on, try it!!

If we do, surely something good-

Let us wait and think of Paradise

Nothing good will come of it!!

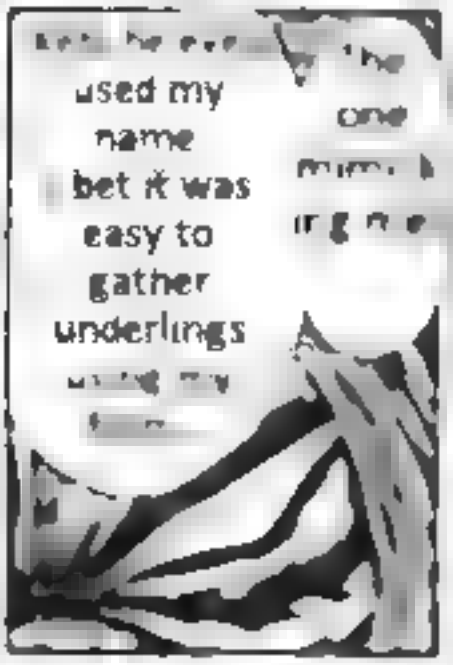
What the

numbers! Crush that fake me!

Ah
ah

That's not true!

And that


used my name
bet it was easy to gather underlings

You see girl I'm pretty good at mimicking humans...
If they'd faced me directly, they would have run.. So I disguised

You could have just gone off to some other land!

You made yourself human and walked right in among them

Then why did you come here on purpose?

Heh, that might be so

It's no use! You're completely out-numbered! You can't hope to win

Y you have to fight to show them that you're the real one?

What would have happened with time?

And then what?

Remember what I said when I was a human "If you pray and wait, something good will come"

Anyone who waits for a wind to ride is a fool.

I see, Tomoe.
To think such a thing happened

Well, after he had destroyed the other geshou*, he d sappeared into the mountains

Ha ha! How is it you weren't eaten by the real mononoke?

Until now, I too thought of it like a dream

*Geshou Bakemono

Neither will I, Yoshinaka-sama

No human can become a mononoke

I won't be able to end this like that mononoke

But

I am satisfied

That
[illegible]
the most
beautiful

Hah!
Ha ha
ha ha!

That is
the
dance
you
dance
[illegible]

excuse
me!

Yah yah!
I am the

opponent

Well then

Fare well, Tomoe

n the next world, with your brothers and me

Your opponent is Kandano Hachirou Moroshige

You will draw that bow

If I had not met that mononoke...

However...

-can't defeat my enemies like that mononoke...

Yes, I-

content with this, as I am now?

Would I be...

Well done, Tomoe!

That's what Komaou said...

I will dance as I do best... yes...

After the battle, Kiso Yoshinaka was killed at Ouminkuni, Awazu.

Reports of Tomoe Gozen are various and indefinite ...

But it is certain that she lived fiercely...

Along with that mononoke...

Forever.

My heart will always be...

By your side,

Well, Komaou...

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●雷の舞・完●
Thunder Dance The End

雷の舞

-Thunder Dance-

うしおととら

外伝